



## COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

### Minutes

August 5, 2015

The meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order at 4 p.m. Wednesday, August 5, 2015, by Diane Hundley, in the Council Chamber, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

**Present:** Nathan Coyle, Jane Creech, Levonia Corry, Raemi Evans, Deborah Harris, Diane Hundley, Karl Sale, Tamara Sheffield and Jessica Vess

**Absent:** Carlton Jackson and Shelley Harper Palmer

**Staff:** Lynn Raker and Diana Moghrabi

The June 4, 2015, minutes were approved as submitted.

### COMMITTEES

**Neighborhoods and Education Committee.** The Blockwork selection committee met in late June; Lynn Raker provided an update on the outcome. Three applications were received: North Main Street Neighborhood, 400 Block South Lee Street, and the Chestnut Hill Neighborhood.

The committee decided unanimously to use Chestnut Hill Neighborhood—possibly centered on the 900 Block of South Jackson Street or South Church Street. This is contingent on a proposed rehabilitation project for seven properties in the area. Some of the houses are boarded up and others are just steps away from needing boarded up.

Coinciding with this is the city allocation for this fiscal year of \$150,000 to go toward neighborhood rehabilitation. Staff met to look at options—vacant houses in need of rehabilitation that are in foreclosure and have liens on them. This is similar to the Historic Salisbury Foundation's program to stabilize houses and put them back on the market.

Together, the stabilization program, Blockwork (Blockwork received a \$10,000 allocation from the City of Salisbury), and private money could help get these seven houses on South Jackson Street move-in ready. South Church Street could be an alternate for Blockwork and bolster South Jackson Street if South Jackson is not ready in time for October 24, 2015, Make a Difference Day.

The 800 block of North Main Street was ruled out mainly because of the house with the big sink hole and the safety concerns for volunteers. Closing North Main Street for the day is not feasible.

Donovan Hamm is following up with the 400 block of South Lee Street; a private investor is interested in the properties. A comprehensive plan is needed for this area. The property across the street is commercial and in rough shape.

Blockwork now has a trailer stocked with tools.

### **Grants Committee**

- Innes Street Grant application from Bella Jayde Boutique has a COA from The Historic Preservation Commission for a new awning. The committee awarded \$475 at 50 percent.
- The Cheerwine Building request was tabled. They would like to replace the front awnings and put awnings over the side doors and the back of the building. They have requested wall lights (flood lights) on the exterior; this needs The Historic Preservation Commission approval before money can be granted. They will need to get an encroachment easement for the side in the alley space.

### **Public Art Committee**

- Lynn will postpone showing the presentation on the Yadkin River Veterans' Memorial Bridge until the State Department of Cultural Resources and NCDOT Committee is able to make their presentation to the elected official boards in September.
- Raemi, Jane and Diane will remain on the PAC.
- Representation that is not connected to *Fame* has been suggested by the community. What could represent the diversity of the community in a positive way?

### **Landscape of the Month**

Jessica reported the August winners:

- Residential this month is 10 Pinetree Road.
- The commercial winner was going to be Wendy's on Innes Street, but they have a dead tree; therefore, the commercial winner is 2810 Statesville Boulevard, Carolina Farm Credit.

Karl nominated 528 Wiley Avenue for September.

Lynn presented the new LOM signs. The cost was less per sign and very lightweight.

The committee would like to move forward with the Secret Garden idea since we have a third sign. They will work on the guidelines.

### **Sign Committee**

Carlton Jackson has had back surgery; Jessica Vess will attend the Planning Board sign committee meetings.

### **BUDGET REVIEW**

Handouts of the budget were distributed. The grant programs, Blockwork, regular programs, biennial awards were all allocated by City Council.

Public Art received \$12,500 with Tourism adding another \$2,500. The PAC received commissions of \$675 and \$7,500 (the large pieces at the I-85 interchange). They received a \$2,500 grant from the Robertson Foundation.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- The CAC has purchased a “little free library” in memory of Fred Evans who gave so much to the Salisbury Community. Raemi was very pleased with the gesture and asked for it to be installed at the local hospital lobby.
- The Complete Streets adopted plan for Long and East Innes Streets will allow staff to take advantage of the upcoming NCDOT repaving by installing some of the features called out in the plan. Lynn provided visuals of the anticipated medians, plantings, pedestrian crossings, fencing and flashing beacon that will be installed soon. The \$550,000 for this phase will be taken out of the fund balance for the project.
- Grass at the curb line has been a common complaint this time of year. Public Services does not currently have staff and equipment to remove the grass at the curb line. They will be sure to do that for October Tour.
- The Nominating/Absenteeism Committee (Diane, Karl, Levonia, Tamara) will reconvene.
- The Fulton Heights Centennial Park will unveil their sculpture Sunday, August 16.
- Lynn presented the interpretive sign to be installed at the Dixonville Cemetery.

**The meeting adjourned.**